

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 077496
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 INR-10 L-03 PM-05
NSC-05 CIAE-00 /063 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:WLSWING/EUR/CE:SMKLINGAMAN:DHT
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EUR/NE:SWORREL(INFO)
PM/ISP:JHAWES(PHONE)
EUR/WE:JDOBBINS(INFO)

-----127506 250328Z /63 R

P 250021Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMCONSUL STUTTGART PRIORITY
SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 077496

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, MPOL, SOPN, TSPA, GW, CG, US

SUBJECT: OTRAG TEST LAUNCH

REFS: A) BONN 05086 (NOTAL);B) LUBUMBASHI 0255 (NOTAL)

1. DEPARTMENT AND DOD SHARE EMBASSY BONN'S CONCERN
EXPRESSED IN PARA TWO OF REFTEL A AS TO IMPRESSION
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PRESENCE OF AN OFFICIAL US OBSERVER AT UPCOMING TEXT
LAUNCH MIGHT CONVEY, IF HE IS THE ONLY FOREIGN
OBSERVER TO ATTEND. HOWEVER, WE WOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM
WITH HIS ATTENDANCE IF REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER MISSIONS
IN KINSHASA WERE ALSO INVITED. IN ORDER NOT TO FUEL
MORE SPECULATION ABOUT MILITARY APPLICATION OF OTRAG,
WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE IF THE

ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR ACTED AS EMBASSY
REPRESENTATIVE AT JUNE LAUNCH. IF EMBASSY KINSHASA
DOES RECEIVE INVITATION TO SEND REPRESENTATIVE TO
WITNESS LAUNCH THIS SHOULD BE REPORTED TO DEPT
IMMEDIATELY.

2. IF OTRAG SHOULD ORGANIZE A PUBLIC RELATIONS TOUR
OF THE OTRAG FACILITY IN MAY AS SUGGESTED REF B,
WE SEE NO REASON WHY US AMBASSADOR SHOULD NOT ATTEND
ASSUMING OTHER MEMBERS OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS (ESPECIALLY
INCLUDING THE BRITISH, FRENCH AND SOVIET) ARE PRESENT. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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